



***San Diego County
Fish & Wildlife Advisory Commission***

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DRAFT MINUTES

February 10, 2005

Meeting Location: California Department of Fish and Game
4949 Viewridge Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123

COMMISSIONERS	DISTRICT
Jack Bransford, Chair	1
Paul Kelpin	1
Florence Sloane	2
Ben Tulloch, Secretary (Absent)	2
Rob Wilder	3
Teresa Barth	3
D'erdra Smothers, Ph.D, Vice-Chair	4
Jim Dodd	4
Mike Pottorff	5
Jim Conrad (acting Secretary)	5

- A. Meeting called to order at:** 6:35 p.m.
- B. Introductions:**
The Commissioners introduce themselves. No public attendees were present.
- C. Minutes for January 13, 2005** were approved without corrections. Moved (Dodd), seconded (Sloane) approved unanimously.
- D. Public Comment**
No public attendees were present.
- E. Chairman's Report –**
None
- F. Administrative Items:**

Old Business

1. **Commission Video Project... DVD Format Availability/Cost - (Pottorff)**
This item was tabled, since Commissioner Pottorff had not yet arrived. This item is to be retained on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.
2. **San Diego Freshwater Fish Project (Pottorff)**
This item was tabled, since Commissioner Pottorff had not yet arrived. This item is to be retained on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.
3. **Monthly Meeting with CDFG (Sloane)**
Commissioner Sloane read from her meeting notes which are included as an appendix to these minutes. This item is to be retained on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.
4. **2005 Fish and Game Commissioners Conference (Bransford)**
The location is believed to be in the Los Angeles area again this year. The meeting date will probably be in May or June 2005, but the original May 13, 2005 date is now uncertain. A query was made by Commissioner Bransford as to interest in attending this year's conference. A motion was made (Sloane) and seconded (Conrad) to reimburse Commissioners attending this conference for travel mileage and the cost of the conference itself. The motion passed unanimously. This item is to be retained on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.
5. **Semi Annual Report Draft (Bransford)**
A motion was made to accept the report as drafted (Conrad) and seconded (Smothers) and was subsequently passed without dissent, with Commissioners Dodd and Barth abstaining. This item is to be removed from the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.

New Business:

1. **Business Cards for Commissioners (Sloane)**
Commissioner Sloane requested that Dawn Nielsen inquire as to whether Commissioners can have FWAC business card prepared that indicate individual POC information, rather than simply the County's phone number and e-mail address. Dawn Nielsen agreed to make the inquiry. This item is to be retained on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.
2. **Mitigation of Border Fence Impacts (Sloane)**
Commissioner Sloane agreed to take the lead in preparing recommendations regarding mitigation opportunities regarding the completion of the boarder fence. Federal dollars are believed to be available for funding mitigation projects, subsequent to Senate approval of the bill recently approved by the House for completion of the fence. This item is to be retained on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.
3. **Handling of fines/forfeiture monies for Fish & Game (Sloane)**
This item was discussed, as identified in the attached meeting notes which are included

as an appendix to these minutes. This item is to be retained on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.

4. **Appropriation of Funds for Fiscal Year 2005/2006**

It was noted that approximately \$43K is available for appropriation. A motion was made (Conrad) and seconded (Pottorff) to appropriate the entire \$43K. The motion subsequently passed unanimously. This item is to be removed from the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.

G. Commissioner's Corner

Commissioner Bransford noted that at the recent California Fish & Game Commission meeting in San Diego that a proposal to ban the use of lead bullets in California Condor areas was defeated by a vote of 3-1. It was also noted that Commissioners Dodd, Bransford and Sloane attended that meeting.

Commissioner Kelpin noted that the Commission had previously voted to approve the purchase of engraved plaques for all departing Commissioners and Commissioner Pottorff agreed to acquire the required plaques for departed Commissioners Gail Hano, Don Houston and Loren Rindal. Commissioner Pottorff will submit an expense voucher for reimbursement of the previously approved funds for such items.

Commissioner Barth identified a recent Ted Williams article regarding the opportunities for cooperation between so-called environmentalists and consumptive-use groups that recently appeared in an Audubon publication and that was widely distributed on the internet.

Commissioner Pottorff provided an update on the San Diego Fresh Water Fish Project, since he arrived late and missed that opportunity earlier in the meeting.

Commissioner Dodd noted that Safari Club International was now prepared to litigate, if it is deemed necessary, in order to protect the interests of hunters in California.

H. Adjournment Time: 7:45 pm

Appendix A – FWAC/DFG/SDCWF Unofficial Monthly Meeting Notes 1/27/2005

FWAC/DFG/SDCWF Monthly Meeting 1/27/2005

Chuck Raysbrook (DFG) informed Jack Bransford (SDCWF) and Florence Sloane (FWAC) that Paul Stein, newly appointed Chief Deputy Director of the Department, intends to focus on hatcheries and streambed alteration, which will include the permitting process and costs of permits. Mr. Raysbrook reported that unpaid volunteers may now be used for the enhancement of resources.

Regarding Commissioner Pottorff's concerns with the captive trout in keeping at the Chula Vista Nature Center, the Department's position is that they are rainbow trout, and a letter has been written to that effect.

Mr. Bransford related that he, and others, have encountered locked gates on the access roads to BLM lands on Otay Mountain. Mr. Raysbrook expressed interest, because the Department is currently acquiring lands in the area for the purpose of providing greater access to the area.

Mr. Raysbrook stated that San Diego County will not turn MSCP mitigation lands over to Fish and Game management if hunting will be allowed. The Department refuses to enter into any land swaps with the County that include restrictions on how those lands will be managed.

Mr. Bransford reported that Tim Dillingham (DFG) and Mike Thometz (QU) continue to plan habitat improvements at Hollenbeck Canyon WA, with work ongoing on the priority projects: refilling trenches; replanting on the existing footprint; and placing guzzlers in disturbed areas.

Mr. Bransford stated that the SDCWF would fund, in part, Jim Conrad's planned trip to Washington, D.C. to lobby for increased boarder security, citing the negative environmental impacts of illegal immigration. Mr. Raysbrook stated that per earlier conversations that morning, Homeland Security's proposed legislation authorizing completion of the boarder fence with waiver of the Endangered Species Act, would be enacted.

Regarding the Commissions concern with the collection and distribution of fines monies, Mr. Raysbrook suggested starting with an inquiry from the Department to all Counties as to how their fine monies are collected and allocated. He also stated that at one time the Department had staff attorneys who would work to educate local District Attorneys and to support local prosecutions of Fish and Game Code violations.

Mr. Raysbrook said he had a recent conversation with Tom Blankinship, Senior Wildlife Biologist in the Upland Game Program, on turkey depredation policy and the management plan. Rancho Cuyamaca has made no comment on turkeys as a problem in the park in the last two years. Mr. Raysbrook will get more information on this for our next meeting.

Mr. Raysbrook will request copies of the current 2005 Fish and Game Code for each Commissioner.

San Diego County Agriculture, Weights and Measures has a contract with USDA Wildlife Services to handle nuisance animals. The Department will respond to coyote calls only if there is an imminent threat to public safety